



Press Release
For Immediate Release

Contact: Jan Clark
Phone: 202-226-7674
jclark@aoc.gov

"Season's Greetings from the National Mall "

Holiday Trains Arrive at the U.S. Botanic Garden

November 24, 2005 - January 8, 2006

October 5, 2005 - Washington, DC - Catch a holiday express! When this year's trains arrive at the U.S. Botanic Garden on November 24 for the opening of the holiday exhibit, the Garden Court will have been transformed into a replica of the National Mall, one of our most treasured national parks. This miniature Mall will include model trains chugging past familiar Washington landmarks, just as real trains once did during the mid-1800s. These enchanting railway scenes once again will be the creation of renowned model railroad designer Paul Busse of Applied Imagination. The entire landscape, including all buildings, will be made of natural plant materials, such as different types of bark, cones, and seed pods. Featured landmarks this year will include the USBG Conservatory, the U.S. Capitol Building, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, the Smithsonian Castle, and many others.

The U.S. Botanic Garden's spectacular holiday horticultural displays will include hundreds of seasonal blooming plants throughout the Conservatory, and an allée of conifers will greet holiday visitors as they enter the building. A majestic Fraser fir tree, decorated in tones of blue, silver, red, and gold, will be the magnificent centerpiece of the holiday display.

The U.S. Botanic Garden Conservatory is open to the public, free of charge, every day of the year from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Conservatory is located at 100 Maryland Avenue, SW, at the foot of the U.S. Capitol. Visitors are encouraged to take Metrobus and Metrorail. Further information is available by calling 202-225-8333 or visiting our website at www.usbg.gov.

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